PKM NEWS

Electric Cooperative

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2025 / **PKMCOOP.COM**

BE ON THE HUNT FOR SAFETY – PAGE 8

CEO Report

Jeff Rustad
CEO
PKM Electric Co-op

October is Cooperative Month. To celebrate your electric cooperative, PKM invited its members into the office for cookies, cupcakes, coffee and apple cider Oct. 8-10. Our staff had nice visits with those of you that were able to stop into the office. It is always good to see our members. We hope everyone sent in their registration form to be eligible for prizes. We gave away a few prizes during the visits. Thank you to the kids who have sent in coloring contest pages; we enjoy seeing these and have them hanging in our lobby.

With every electric bill you pay, you are investing back into your cooperative. As a cooperative member, you are the cooperative's owner. Your board of directors is comprised of your neighbors. The board makes decisions for you on your behalf. You, as a member-owner with local control, elect your neighbors to serve as directors of our cooperative. There is control by you, and the board is accountable to you. The board decides when to return capital credits to you, all while providing great service and electricity 24/7, 365 days a year. Remember, the cooperative was created and built by your past relatives and neighbors because the investor-owned utilities refused to provide power to them. I also want to remind you that PKM and our neighboring cooperatives are all member-owners of Minnkota Power Cooperative, our wholesale power provider. That means Minnkota as a cooperative is looking out for the best interests of the distribution cooperatives and you, the member-owners. Tom Woinarowicz is your representative on this board, and Paul Aakre is your representative on the Square Butte board.

I have received a few questions about Applied Digital (the data center load near Harwood, North Dakota), which has been in the news. It is already under construction. One of our neighboring co-ops, along with Minnkota, will be serving that load. Questions are being asked like: Will it raise my cost of power to serve this load? Will this cause my power to be shut off? The answer is "no." Like what we do here at PKM, members who add large loads pay added costs to serve that load up front. Many factors go into this; capacity to serve loads like this are a large part of the cost, along with transmission or distribution costs to serve the load. No matter who serves the load, the load entity needs to pay these costs up front. We are often asked about the cost in aid of construction. For example, say you are looking to add three-phase power so you can run large motor loads. Would you think it is up to all member-owners to cover the construction to serve that load? The answer is "no." There is a significant difference between a 10-kW, 100-kW or 500-kW load, and there is also a significant difference in the costs of serving those loads. Whatever costs are paid up front, the cooperative takes on the maintenance of that service for the life of that service. If you have a mile of line feeding your service, whether it is one year or 10 years down the road, our cooperative will replace it if needed. The cost of replacing equipment or underground line down the road will be drastically higher than your cost to aid of construction now. This is part of being a member-owner of our cooperative. If you have questions, please give me a call.

Our crews are still plowing underground cable at this point, adding new and replacing older cables that have experienced failures. Our days for outside work are numbered as the year winds down. If you need anything done, please call and talk with Matt or Joe. The winds we have had the past few months have kept the linemen busy chasing outages caused by downed trees. While we have had some equipment outages, there have not been as many as last year. Thank you to those who are watching out for the power poles, lines and boxes during this harvest season. Thank you for your patience as our crews work through outages as they occur.

Fall is here, so I want to remind those that have heat pumps to look at the outside unit and make sure it is clean. If you hire someone to do this, it might be a good time to service your heating system. Hope all is well with you, and Happy Thanksgiving.

Electrical Inspectors

Marshall County
Nick Boman
651-627-2696

Kittson County
Ronald Ditsch
218-779-6758

Polk County
Todd Knaack
763-516-0344

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800-552-7366
e-mail: info@pkmcoop.com
website: **www.pkmcoop.com**

Next board meeting
Board meeting to be held the last Tuesday of the month.

Officers and Directors
President .... Mark Hatton
Vice President .... C.J. Peterson
Secretary-Treasurer .... Wayne Malm
Directors .... Paul Aakre, Jerred Copp, Steve Goodwin, Chris Mortenson, Blake Owens, and Tom Woinarowicz
CEO .... Jeff Rustad
Editors .... Danny Schmidt, Megan Dagoberg

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

ONE BIG BEAUTIFUL BILL TO RESHAPE AMERICAN ENERGY POLICY

Electric cooperative advocacy delivers results in fast-changing legislative environment

In a legislative environment where many energy incentives were rolled back or eliminated, PKM Electric Cooperative and cooperatives across the nation stood strong and saw results. Thanks to consistent and collective advocacy, the One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA), signed into law on July 4, preserved key provisions that ensure co-ops remain on equal footing with investor-owned utilities in the nation's evolving energy landscape.

Among the notable victories, electric cooperatives successfully retained access to elective-pay energy tax credits and the ability to transfer those credits – two vital provisions that level the playing field between not-for-profit co-ops and investor-owned utilities. These tools, first introduced in recent years, allow co-ops to benefit directly from federal energy incentives without needing a tax liability, making it possible to pursue projects that were previously out of reach.

While the bill did accelerate the phaseout of wind and solar tax credits and eliminated federal incentives for electric vehicles, cooperative advocacy helped preserve core opportunities and helped avoid major challenges.

Wind and solar tax credit phaseout

One of the most impactful changes under the new law is the accelerated phaseout of tax credits for wind and solar projects. To qualify for the credits, projects must now be placed in service by Dec. 31, 2027 or begin construction within 12 months of the bill's passage.

Just days after the bill's signing, the White House issued an executive order directing the Treasury Department to tighten the definition of "start of construction," signaling that only projects with a substantial portion already built may qualify for credits.

The legislation also imposes stricter domestic content requirements and penalties for using materials linked to foreign entities of concern, which creates some complexity in project planning and supply chains.

While wind and solar face compressed timelines and stricter conditions, other energy technologies fared better. Battery storage, geothermal and nuclear projects retain full tax credit eligibility into the 2030s.

Maintaining carbon capture as an option

Where OBBBA reduces support for renewables, it expands some incentives for carbon capture, utilization and storage (CCUS). Minnkota, PKM Electric Cooperative's wholesale power provider, is a national leader in CCUS through Project Tundra, which proposes to retrofit the coal-based Milton R. Young Station with carbon capture technology.

Under the updated 45Q tax credit, the law now offers equal incentives for both enhanced oil recovery (EOR) and geologic sequestration. This bolsters financial support options for CCUS, which can help ensure reliable baseload power plants can operate in a carbon-managed future.

EV incentives eliminated

One of the most visible changes for consumers under OBBBA is the elimination of federal electric vehicle (EV) tax credits. The move marks a significant policy shift away from government-supported EV adoption and places more emphasis on market-driven growth.

Industry analysts expect the change to slow the pace of EV adoption, particularly among first-time buyers and in regions where upfront cost remains a primary barrier.

Looking ahead

Federal energy policy continues to swing dramatically with each administration, creating challenges for utilities planning infrastructure and investments with 30- to 50-year horizons.

PKM Electric Cooperative emphasizes that stable, bipartisan energy policy is essential to providing the certainty needed for long-term resource planning. Through continued advocacy work, electric cooperatives are engaging with federal leaders to ensure their priorities are reflected in all future decisions.

PREPARE YOUR HEATING SYSTEM

FOR DEMAND RESPONSE SEASON

It may only be October, but the cold months of winter are sneaking up faster than any of us would like. To make sure you're not caught off guard, you'll want to confirm your home heating system is online and working properly. And if you're a volunteer member of PKM's demand response program (often called off-peak), we have some pre-winter projections and advice to ensure you're set for the season.

According to outlooks from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), both North Dakota and Minnesota expect to see a fairly normal winter, with near-average snowfall and temperatures. However, as lifelong Midwesterners know, the only thing predictable about our weather is its unpredictability, so your co-op will be preparing for 200 hours of estimated demand response through the winter. For perspective, 127 hours of demand response were deployed last winter.

When electricity demand spikes, such as during extended cold spells when many homes rely on electric heat, our power provider, Minnkota Power Cooperative, activates the demand response program across the region. During these times, enrolled homes are automatically switched from electric heat to an alternative backup heat source, such as fuel oil, propane or natural gas. This switch helps reduce stress on the power grid and avoids costly electricity purchases from the market, ultimately helping keep rates low for all members. Plus, program volunteers receive a nearly 50% reduction in their electric heating rate.

CHECK YOUR BACKUP HEAT

If you're part of the demand response program, it's critical to check your backup heating system now. This includes:

- Ensuring fuel tanks (propane, fuel oil, etc.) are filled
- Verifying that the backup system is working properly
- Confirming your system switches over automatically

Minnkota will be conducting a demand response test in early to mid-December, so now is the ideal time to make sure everything is in order. If you have any concerns, reach out to your co-op before winter weather arrives in full force!

If you want to learn more about PKM's demand response options, give us a call at **218-745-4711** or visit **pkmcoop.com**.

PKM COOPERATIVE MONTH OPEN HOUSE

Event Recap and Prize Winner!

Members were invited to stop into the PKM office in Warren the week of Oct. 8-10 for treats and to register for door prizes as we celebrated National Co-op Month.

Debra and David Benson were the grand prize winners of a Blackstone electric griddle.

As part of the celebration, kids were invited to participate in a coloring contest.

Members enjoyed coffee, treats and cider during the Co-op Month Open House.

Energy credit and coloring contest winners will be announced after Oct. 31.

PKM TRUNK OR TREAT

PKM was thrilled to particpate in a Trunk or Treat event for the community on Sunday, Oct. 26, put on by OSL Lutheran Church in Warren. Thank you to everyone who dressed up and took the time to come out before Halloween!

PKM employees handed out treats and got kids excited about future careers at the co-op.

Event participants were all smiles to dress up and decorate their vehicles for the Halloween festivities.

Trunk-or-treaters came out to visit vehicles decked out for the event.

WATCH THE WIRES.

The idea seems easy enough.

But when you're rushing to plant or get the harvest out of the ground, you might forget about those power lines on the field's edge.

Take a moment to talk to your team about how to avoid equipment contact with power lines and poles – and what to do if contact occurs.

The reminder could save a life.

Learn more and request a free safety kit from your electric cooperative system at **WatchtheWires.com.**

IF YOU HIT A POWER LINE OR POLE:

1. Stay inside the cab
2. Call 9-1-1
3. Wait for responders

WATCH THE WIRES

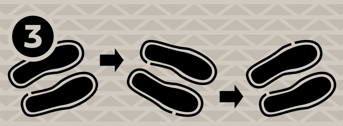
WATCHTHEWIRES.COM

IF THERE IS SMOKE/FIRE:

Cross your arms across your chest

Jump out with your **feet together**

*(**don't** touch the ground and vehicle at the same time)*



Shuffle or **bunny hop** far away

*(feet **always** together)*

WATCHTHEWIRES.COM SCAN TO LEARN MORE

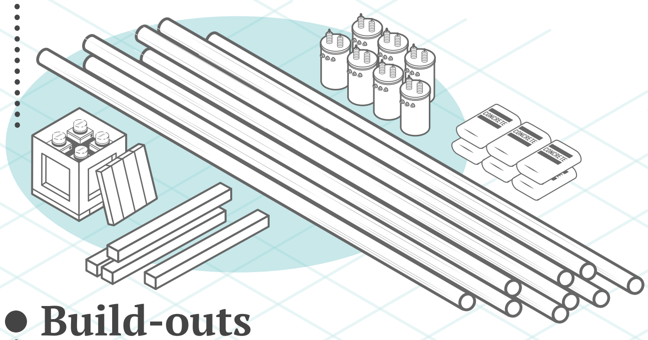
Watch the Wires is a safety campaign developed by Minnkota Power Cooperative and its member cooperatives in eastern North Dakota and northwestern Minnesota.

Cost Increases

The past five years have been a period of exploding costs for the electric utility industry and for broadband providers, pushed by soaring demand, supply chain challenges, raw materials shortages, increased labor costs and tariffs. The impact has been rapid increases in the cost of producing power, longer and more unpredictable project timelines and the need for more financing, all of which have driven electric rates up for residences, businesses and other end-users. Here's a look at what's contributing to the trend. **Percent increase since 2020:**

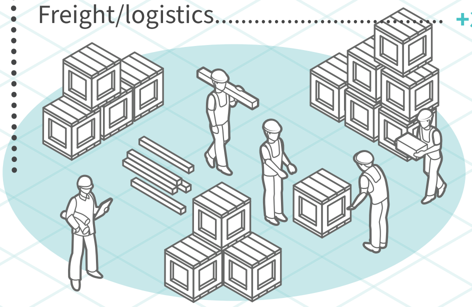
Infrastructure

Utility poles (wood, steel, composite)	**+25–40%**
Crossarms & braces (steel/wood)	**+20–35%**
Conductor wire (aluminum/copper)	**+30–50%**
Transformers	**+70–100%**
Grain-oriented electrical steel	**+80–100%**
Oil/dielectric fluids	**+25–40%**
Copper wiring	**+50%**
Concrete	**+25–35%**
Smart meters	**+20–35%**
Pad-mounted switchgear	**+25–40%**
Circuit breakers/reclosers	**+20–35%**



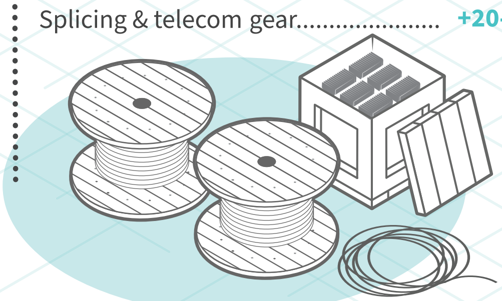
Build-outs

Utility construction labor	**+20–40%**
Freight/logistics	**+30–60%**



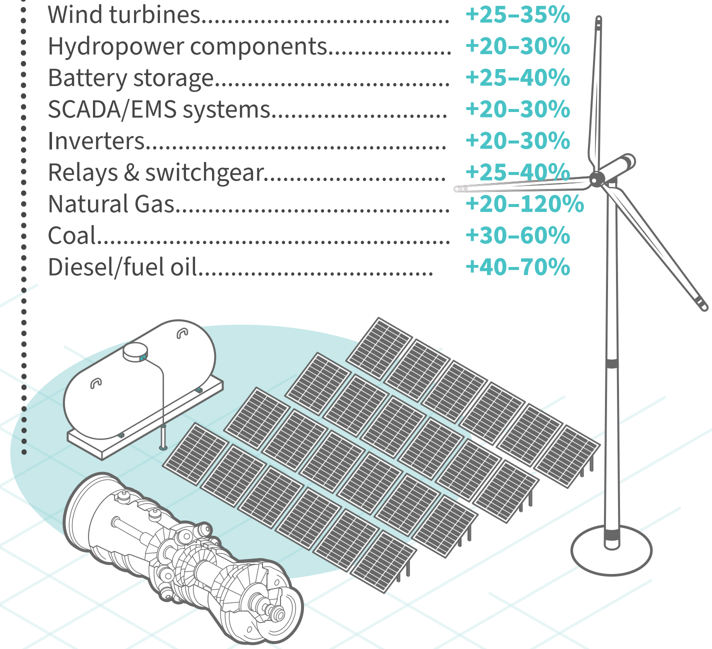
Broadband

Fiber-optic cable	**+25–40%**
Splicing & telecom gear	**+20–30%**



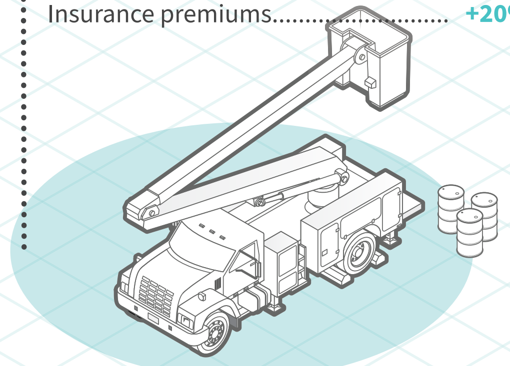
Generation

Diesel gensets	**+20–40%**
Gas turbines	**+20–30%**
Solar PV systems	**+25–35%**
Wind turbines	**+25–35%**
Hydropower components	**+20–30%**
Battery storage	**+25–40%**
SCADA/EMS systems	**+20–30%**
Inverters	**+20–30%**
Relays & switchgear	**+25–40%**
Natural Gas	**+20–120%**
Coal	**+30–60%**
Diesel/fuel oil	**+40–70%**



Fleets

Light trucks	**+25–40%**
Bucket trucks, digger derricks	**+20–50%**
Fuel costs (especially diesel)	**+20–30%**
Maintenance	**+15–25%**
Insurance premiums	**+20%**



Sources: BLS; energynews.com; Reuters; Wood Mackenzie; NREL; IEA

Infographic courtesy of NRECA

Design: Kevin Kepple

BE ON THE HUNT FOR SAFETY

Wearing a bright orange vest, keeping your finger off the trigger until you're ready to shoot, and only pointing at your target. These are some of the safety measures associated with hunting, and electrical safety should be added to the list.

Never shoot near or toward power lines, power poles, transformers or substations. A stray bullet could not only damage equipment, potentially interrupting electric service, but could be deadly to the shooter. Damage to the conductor could drop the line to the ground, causing a possibility of electrocution to those nearby.

Hunters are urged to follow these safety tips while out hunting:

- **Familiarize yourself with the location of power lines and equipment on land where you shoot.**
- **Be especially careful in wooded areas where power lines may not be as visible.**
- **Take notice of warning signs and keep clear of electrical equipment.**
- **Do not place deer stands on utility poles or climb poles. Energized lines and equipment on the poles can conduct electricity to anyone who comes in contact with them.**
- **Do not place decoys on power lines or other utility equipment. Anything attached to a pole, except for utility equipment, is an obstruction and poses a serious hazard to utility workers.**

Don't make lineworkers hunt for problems caused in a hunting area. Sometimes damage isn't noticed for several weeks or months, or unless an outage occurs.

Keep yourself and your utility safe this hunting season. For more electrical safety tips, visit **SafeElectricity.org.**

COLD WEATHER RULE

In accordance with Minnesota's Cold Weather Rule (216B.097), electric service cannot be disconnected for nonpayment between **Oct. 1 and April 30** if electricity is the primary heat source and all of the following statements apply:

- Your household income is at or below 50% of the state median household income. Income may be verified on forms provided by PKM or by the local energy assistance provider (see below).
- You enter into and make reasonable and timely payments under a payment agreement that considers the financial resources of the household.
- You receive referrals to energy assistance, weatherization, conservation or other programs likely to reduce your energy bills from PKM.

Please note that the Cold Weather Rule does not completely stop winter disconnects.

Before disconnecting electric service to residential members between Oct. 1 and April 30, PKM must provide:

- **A 30-day mailed notice or 15-day hand-delivered notice**
- **A statement of members' rights and responsibilities**
- **A list of local energy assistance providers**
- **Forms to request Cold Weather Rule protection**
- **A statement explaining available payment plans and other options to continue service**

ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

This program is federally funded and can help low-income renters and homeowners pay for home heating costs and furnace repairs. Household income must be at 50% of the state median income to qualify for benefits. To learn more about the EAP program or to apply visit the MN Dept. of Commerce Energy Assistance website at **https://mn.gov/commerce/consumers/consumer-assistance/energy-assistance/** for more details and to access the application portal. Or simply contact your county's EAP service provider.

If you are having difficulty paying your electric bill and regardless of whether you qualify for either of these programs, please contact PKM to set up a payment plan.

LOCAL ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROVIDERS

Northwest Community Action
PO Box 67, Badger, MN 56714-0067
(218) 528-3258 or Toll Free (800) 568-5329
(Serves east Marshall County and Kittson County)

Tri-Valley Opportunity Council, Inc.
1407 Erskine Street, Crookston, MN 56716
(218) 281-9080 or Toll Free (866) 264-3729
(Serves west Marshall County and west Polk County)

IS YOUR OFF-PEAK HEATING SYSTEM READY FOR WINTER?

Since weather conditions and future wholesale power market prices make the amount of load control hours hard to predict, all our off-peak members are encouraged to have a reliable, automatic dual heating system in place and ready to use.

To ensure your total comfort this winter, consider the following questions about your backup heating system:

1. Is the system sized to heat your entire home or business?
2. Does it maintain an adequate comfort level?
3. Is it reliable?
4. Is it fully automatic?

Check current fuel prices and be sure to fill your propane or fuel oil tank. Also, make sure your tank is large enough to hold an adequate supply. Remember, prices typically rise as demand increases during the heating season.

Our member services department is glad to answer any off-peak questions you may have.

Board meeting **highlights** *July and August*

A regular meeting of the board was held Tuesday, July 29, 2025.

Mark Hatton, president who presided, asked for roll call. Upon calling the roll, the secretary reported that all directors were present with the exception of Director Owens.

Upon motion duly made by Director Goodwin, seconded by Director Peterson and unanimously carried, an executive session was called to order at 8:09 a.m. The president returned the meeting to regular order concluding the executive session at 8:25 a.m.

Line Superintendent Joe Marcotte presented the monthly safety and operations report, indicating no accidents and no lost time. Highlights from his report included Miff from Minnesota Safety Inc. and Curt from MREA. The linemen are very busy with service cable replacements, service improvements and a few new services. Chad from Federated Insurance was here with a very good report.

The member service manager shared activities within his department. He is having trouble with the Halma relay, working on adding more relays and rerouting a few. Minnkota has had 20:59 minutes of yellow zone control and 2:37 minutes of red zone for the summer season. A stationary solar system is fully interconnected now. PKM has paid out $27,805 in rebates so far for 2025.

The CFO reported to the directors on recent activity within the office. The CFO continued with the presentation of the Operating and Financial report for the cooperative. June revenue sales are up from 2024 by $261,829.91 and expenses were under budget at $361,197.29 year to date. Other financial data was presented and discussed along with the current tier ratio at 2.26 and equity at 55.2%. Summer is always a rough time of the year financially as we typically see reduced revenue and increased expenses.

The CEO referenced his written report outlining recent meetings he has attended and briefed the board on some opportunities for PKM in the coming future. He will share more information as he receives it.

Upon presentation of the reports from the management staff and CEO, questions and comments from the board of directors concerning their reports were addressed.

The second quarter financials were reviewed by the board of directors and found to be an accurate representation of the first half financial transactions.

At this time, the directors discussed policy bulletin 9-6.12 Line Extension. After some discussion it was tabled with a few suggestions until next meeting. They also discussed the addition of Policy Bulletin 26-1 Line Maintenance Program. It was asked by Federated Insurance to put this policy in place.

The board discussed issuing one release to Otter Tail Power Company for an electric service. Releases have been discussed on other occasions; the board is always reluctant to issue releases. After discussion it was decided not to release the service to Otter Tail Power Company and keep it in PKM Electric's service territory.

The member service manager, Danny Schmidt, asked the board to approve the 2025 Electric Rebate Application, with the change to the brick storage rebate amount.

Director Woinarowicz and Director Aakre gave their reports on Minnkota and Square Butte.

The CEO shared miscellaneous information with the directors including Federated Safety and Loss Prevention Assessment, KRTA Executive Summary, Carr's Tree Service financials, cooperative energy sales and solar information.

A regular meeting of the board was held Tuesday, Aug. 26, 2025.

Mark Hatton, president who presided, asked for roll call. Upon calling the roll, the president reported that all directors were present.

Line Superintendent Joe Marcotte presented the monthly safety and operations report, indicating no accidents and no lost time. MREA was here with the topic Speak Up and Listen Up. Miff was here on Aug. 6 for Emergency Action Plan Training. It was a busy month with storms and a larger outage mainly caused by MPC transmission issues. The linemen have been very busy with cable replacements, new services and service improvements. PKM had truck inspections done, but truck 57 needs to go to Watertown, South Dakota, to have some repairs done on the boom and the bucket controls removed. He shared with the directors that Bret Klopp will be coming back as a lineman.

The member service manager, Danny Schmidt, provided an update to directors regarding recent activities within his department. Schmidt shared that we finally have an estimated arrival date of 8/19/25 for the 120 meters from Eaton with another shipment the following week containing 240 meters. Minnkota has had 34:44 minutes of yellow zone control and 7:23 minutes of red zone control. Minnkota is working on getting logins for the board of directors for the MemberSource website. PKM will be doing a week of cupcakes, cider and coffee for Co-op Month on Oct. 8-10, 2025, with door prizes. There will also be a coloring contest for kids in the PKM News.

The CFO opened her report with an office update. We are working with our members to clean up past-due balances before the cold weather rule goes into effect in just a little over a month. We will be running trucks on Tuesday to disconnect any accounts that have not paid or made payments.

The CFO continued with the presentation of the Operating and Financial report for the cooperative. She reported that revenue is up $320,285.06 from 2024 and we are under budget by $64,386.35 for the year. Expenses are under budget by $313,219.64. Historical data for margins for a 10-year PTD and YTD comparison were provided and discussed. Other financial data was presented and discussed along with the current tier of 2.21.

The CEO, Jeff Rustad, highlighted information received at the MREA Energy Issues Summit. Rustad presented director Aakre his BLC classes award. The CEO shared information on a few opportunities for large loads for PKM. Minnkota will be doing their billing peak.

Upon presentation of the reports from the management staff and CEO, questions and comments from the board of directors concerning their reports were addressed.

At this time, the directors discussed policy bulletin 2-7 Employee Locations. It was suggested to change the miles from 15 to 31 miles from PKM Electric, along with adding if the employee is more than 10 miles from PKM it will be required for them to take a company vehicle home with them to reduce response time while on call.

Policy bulletin 9-6.12 Line Extensions was discussed again after changes were made to the policy after the last meeting. They went over the new changes that had been made.

Brady Martz & Associates, P.C. has completed Form 990 for review. The drafted information was distributed to the directors for verification of completeness and accuracy.

Director Woinarowicz and Director Aakre gave their reports on Minnkota and Square Butte.

Other information was shared including the following: the energy transition, hydrocarbons, and the future of U.S. electricity demand, nuclear energy in a shifting landscape, how data centers are reshaping rural America, on the horizon, transitioning for growth, a thank-you card from Cooperative Family Fund, NRECA voting delegate and cooperative energy sales. Financials were provided for Carr's Tree Service.

PKM ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE POLITICAL LEADERS

Federal Legislators

President Donald Trump
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, D.C. 20500
www.whitehouse.gov
202-456-1111

Senator Tina Smith
720 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
Phone: 202-224-5641

Senator Amy Klobuchar
425 Dirksen Senate Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
www.klobuchar.senate.gov
202-224-3244
1-888-224-9043 (Minnesota office)
Fax: 202-228-2186

Congresswoman Michelle Fischbach
1237 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
www.fischbach.house.gov
202-225-2165
Fax: 202-225-1593

State of Minnesota Legislators

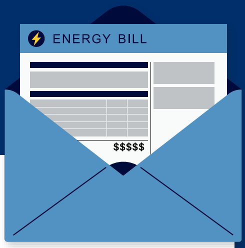
Governor Tim Walz
Capitol Building, Room 130
75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55155
800-657-3717
www.mn.gov/governor

Senator Mark Johnson
95 University Avenue W.
Minnesota Senate Building, Room 3111
St. Paul, MN 55155
651-296-5782
sen.mark.johnson@senate.mn
www.senate.mn/members

Representative John Burkel
309 State Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155
651-296-9635
rep.john.burkel@house.mn

Representative Steve Gander
Centennial Office Building (Second Floor)
St. Paul, MN 55155
651-296-5091
rep.steve.gander@house.mn

NEED HELP PAYING YOUR ELECTRIC BILL?



Energy assistance may be available!

If you are receiving a low income or suffering from a temporary financial shortfall, the following agencies may be able to assist you with your electric bill. We urge you to contact them immediately to avoid disconnection if you feel you are eligible for aid.

NORTHWEST COMMUNITY ACTION
PO Box 67, Badger, MN 56714-0067
(218) 528-3258 or (800) 568-5329 | nwcaa.org

TRI-VALLEY OPPORTUNITY COUNCIL, INC.
1407 Erskine Street, Crookston, MN 56716
(218) 281-9080 or (866) 264-3729

YOU CAN ALSO APPLY ONLINE:
https://energy-assistance.web.commerce.state.mn.us

ENERGY EFFICIENCY: TIP OF THE MONTH

As winter approaches, now is the time to inspect your home for air leaks around windows. Leaks reduce indoor comfort and lead to higher heating costs. Caulking and weatherstripping are simple, effective methods for sealing windows. Choose the right product and apply it properly to reduce heat loss.

PKM STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP

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	(2)	Mailed In-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (Include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)	782	776
	(3)	Paid Distribution Outside the Mails Including Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Paid Distribution Outside USPS®		
	(4)	Paid Distribution by Other Classes of Mail Through the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail®)		
c. Total Paid Distribution (Sum of 15b (1), (2), (3), and (4))			2475	2467
d. Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (By Mail and Outside the Mail)	(1)	Free or Nominal Rate Outside-County Copies included on PS Form 3541		
	(2)	Free or Nominal Rate In-County Copies Included on PS Form 3541		
	(3)	Free or Nominal Rate Copies Mailed at Other Classes Through the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail)		
	(4)	Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means)	75	75
e. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Sum of 15d (1), (2), (3) and (4))			75	75
f. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15e)			2550	2542
g. Copies not Distributed (See Instructions to Publishers #4 (page #3))			10	10
h. Total (Sum of 15f and g)			2560	2552
i. Percent Paid (15c divided by 15f times 100)			97	97

* If you are claiming electronic copies, go to line 16 on page 3. If you are not claiming electronic copies, skip to line 17 on page 3.

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Sept/Oct 2025

PKM Electric COOPERATIVE, INC.

5 REASONS TO CELEBRATE

NATIONAL CO-OP MONTH

Every October for National Co-op Month, PKM likes to take a moment to reflect on how grateful we are to be serving you – our friends and neighbors. You see, being a member of a co-op has a lot of perks that you won't find as a customer of an investor-owned utility (IOU).

EVERY MEMBER IS AN OWNER, NOT JUST A CUSTOMER.

Electric co-ops are **member-owned,** not owned by shareholders. That means your voice matters and the co-op works for your benefit, not for profit.

YOUR COMMUNITY. YOUR DECISIONS.

Local control and accountability is important. Co-ops are governed by a board of directors elected by members, often your neighbors. Decisions are made locally, not in a corporate office far away.

MORE VALUE STAYS WITH YOU, NOT WALL STREET.

Unlike IOUs, not-for-profit co-ops don't pay dividends to shareholders. Any revenue above operating costs is returned to members as **capital credits** or reinvested to improve service.

PURPOSE OVER PROFIT.

Co-ops prioritize **service, reliability, safety and community needs** – not just the bottom line. Many also lead the way in energy efficiency programs and sustainable energy initiatives.

WHEN YOU SUPPORT YOUR CO-OP, YOU SUPPORT YOUR COMMUNITY.

Electric co-ops were **built by the communities they serve.** They invest locally, support schools, sponsor scholarships, and help neighbors in need through programs like Operation Round Up.